



**MARYLAND
BALANCE OF STATE
CONTINUUM OF CARE**

COC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 18, 2021 – 1pm-3pm

[Recording Link](#)

Board Members Present	Allegany County: Susan Malone, David Nedved Cecil County: Gwen Parrack, Earl Grey Garrett County: Carrie DiSimone, Duane Yoder Southern MD: Cynthia Brown, Jacquelyn Culver, Lanny Lancaster, Corae Young Washington County: Mark Sewell, Tyrell Wilson MD Department of Human Services (DHS): Lauren Molineaux MD Department of Health (MDH): Priya Arokiaswamy MD Department of Disabilities (MDOD): Chelsea Hayman MD Department of Veteran Affairs (MDVA): Dana Burl MD Department of Labor (DLLR): Erin Roth MD Dept. of Housing and Community Development (DHCD): Stuart Campbell
Board Members Absent	MD Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS): Vacant MD Department of Education: Melissa Surgeon
CoC Lead Present	Danielle Meister, Carolyn Curry
HMIS Lead Present	Jason Burns

I. Welcome & Call to Order

Board Chair Carrie DiSimone called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm. Quorum requirements were met. The Chair reviewed the meeting agenda and reminded attendees of meeting logistics.

II. Approval of January 2021 Board Meeting Minutes

The March Board Meeting minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

III. Committee Reports

- Executive Committee is finalizing the Committee Chair process, DHCD staff will contact nominees of the Coordinated Entry and HMIS Committees. The Executive Committee is finalizing recommended updates to the CoC Governance Charter. Will submit proposed updates to the full board once ready.
- HMIS Committee reports on plans to update the existing user license structure, future training plans and HUD required reporting status. TEAMHMIS will meet with each LHC for project review and other data needs.
- Coordinated Entry Committee reported on progress to date, implementation and roll out plans in progress.

IV. CoC Lead Report

FFY2020 CoC Grant Executions are in progress between HUD and project recipients. There are no formal announcements on the timing of the FFY2021 CoC Competition. The Board reviewed and voted on the proposed FFY2021 CoC competition related policy and procedures. Mark Sewell moved to approve, Stuart Campbell made the second. All approved.

HSP funding is aligned with HUD ESG activities, SFY22 funding is coming soon. DHCD plans to expedite process and avoid delays. CoCs will be eligible for the same amount as last year, but will need to competitively select projects for portfolio – should consider project performance, meeting needs, new partners.

ERAP jurisdictional funding amounts have been announced, there is \$31million total and will increase with recent congressional approval. County Governments are eligible grantees, and can work with local non-profits to administer. Launch date is May 1. Training webinars are being scheduled.

Mark Sewell: Should 65% funds expended by 9/30/21?

65% threshold is based on treasury expectation. Will review obligated and expended funds in October, grantees that haven't expended 65% may be subject to reallocation. The full amount spend down extended to 9/22. Guidance coming forth from DHCD, the bi-weekly calls will also have updated, targeted outreach on guidance coming soon. There are fewer documentation requirements, expected to be easier to spend.

Emergency Housing will include \$15 million, not much guidance at this time. DHCD working to identify eligible costs. Planning to allocate funds directly to CoCs and LHCs. Will advance by June 30th but will not have to expend by then. Funds can be subgranted to local agencies. Activities include sheltering, motels, rental assistance for 30 days, DHCD interprets as 30 days at a time for current or future rent, no arrears. Admin costs are allowable but amount pending, will be shareable w local partners.

The American Rescue Plan Act will include ERAP expansion, HOME expansion, HCV, LIHEAP & Water and Homeowner Assistance. Will serve homeless or at risk households, those fleeing domestic violence and families at high risk of housing instability.

The 2020-2024 Con Plan draft will be released soon. It is a 5 year planning process and DHCD will seek input from partners.

Vaccinations are available for congregate living facilities. DHCD wanting to track data and get CoC feedback to better advocate for assistance.

Corae Young – Would like to encourage LHCs strategize plans for the new money; take time to strategize vs a quick spend. Recommend each LHC to identify who should be at the table to create a plan.

Chelsea Hayman – Is there consideration for prioritizing chronically homeless households with ERA funds?

Treasury has prioritized unemployed and 50% AMI, there is no priority on disability status now. Coordinated Entry does currently prioritize chronic homelessness for PSH units.

V. Local Homelessness Coalition Reports

- *Allegany County:* David Nedved- LHC meeting was held yesterday, have restructured meetings to allow half the time going over the task force of various county providers working to better collaborate on services. Second half of the meeting is talking about various funding resources. Haven't vaccinated anyone in shelter yet, have to get people to the vaccination site, MDH doesn't come to the shelter.
- *Cecil County:* Gwen Parrack- Vaccine is now offered to all homeless and using the J&J shot. The vast majority staying in the mens shelter have received it, the female households have been more resistant to getting it. Cecil is on track to spend HSP and CV funds. The winter shelter is wrapping up for the year
- *Garrett County:* Carrie DiSimone – LHC is on track for HSP spending. ESG CV2 has been submitted and are preparing for new funds. Working with local MDH to provide vaccines for shelters, no one in shelter interested yet. 23% of the county population has received it so far. Duane Yoder- We are hoping for herd immunity soon, planning to open agency fully on April 1.
- *Southern MD:* Corae Young- The LHC is finalizing recommendations for agency funding for CV2 and will be submitting to DHCD with in next month. The LHC is focused on current spending and is using CDBG funds to get supplies for agencies. Vaccinations are available in all counties and have been offered to shelter residents and staff. We have seen mortgage assistance funding gaps and are working on that. Jacquelyn Culver- We are trying to get vaccine out to clients, MDH is trying to work with our population. We hope to get access to the J&J shot. Have set up vaccine clinics near unsheltered campers.
- *Washington County:* Mark Sewell- The LHC has submitted CV2. Have developed new mixed use youth facility, will operate under a TH/RRH model. Are working to develop new partnerships to add more facilities. LHC will meet to discuss strategy for upcoming eviction moratorium lift. Will be working with city partners and landlords. In same boat as all in funding & spending. The cold weather shelter got the J&J shot, the trend is 50% of staff agree to get it. One shelter facility said no for residents and staff.

VI. CoC Membership & Meeting – March 29, 2021

HUD requires CoCs to hold full membership meetings at least twice a year. The BoS will hold its first all member meeting on March 29th. The agenda is available for review, the meeting invite has been sent via list serve, and will be forwarded to all Board members.

VII. State Agency Updates

N/A - No updates.

VIII. Future Board Meeting Agenda Items

Duane-sect 8 voucher for homeless in new relief act. Good opp to wipe out homeless at least temporarily. CDA should talk about it.

Corae-possible to host PHA meeting to review new funds? Encourage to apply and partner w LHC

IX. Public Comment

N/A - No members of the public attended the meeting.

X. Adjournment

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting.

Vote Summary

- January Meeting Minutes Approved
- FFY2021 CoC Competition Policy Approved